

RESOLUTION NO 4618

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A DEFINITION AND STATEMENT OF INTENT REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES TO THE CITY OF EUGENE

The City Council of the City of Eugene finds that:

A. In March and April, 1999 the City Council held a series of work session on Council Goals for the 1999 -2001 biennium. In those work sessions, the Council discussed the meaning of the term "sustainable" as it related to proposed Council Goal #2. The City Council directed staff to provide information on the sustainability concept at a future Council meeting.

B. On September 8, 1999 the City Council held a work session to discuss the sustainability concept and its application to Council Goal #2, and to the government of the City of Eugene. Following that discussion, the City Council directed staff to prepare a resolution that adopts a definition for the term "sustainable" and outlines further actions that the City might take to incorporate sustainability principles in local government activities.

C. Issues related to community sustainability cut across jurisdictional borders and political boundaries. The application of measures to insure a sustainable future requires intergovernmental cooperation and support from private sector business entities, community and neighborhood organizations, non-governmental organizations, and educational institutions.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, a Municipal Corporation of the State of Oregon, as follows:

Section 1. Based on the above findings, we, the elected officials of the City of Eugene agree to uphold the Sustainability Principles outlined in Section 2. The City of Eugene is committed to promoting a sustainable future that meets today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs, and accepts its responsibility to:

Support a stable, diverse and equitable economy

Protect the quality of the air, water, land and other natural resources

Conserve native vegetation, fish, wildlife habitat and other ecosystems

Minimize human impacts on local, regional and worldwide ecosystems

Section 2. Sustainability Principles: City elected officials and City staff will uphold the following principles in carrying out their duties:

1. ***The concept of sustainability guides city policy and actions.*** The City of Eugene is committed to meeting its current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The City will ensure that each of its policy decisions and programs are interconnected through the

common bond of sustainability as expressed in these principles. The cumulative and long term impacts of policy choices will be considered as we work to ensure a sustainable legacy.

2. *The City will lead by example.* The City of Eugene has an opportunity and responsibility to set an example for other organizations by operating its facilities and services in a sustainable manner. The City is committed to assessing its current practices and programs with respect to their conformance with sustainability objectives. The City is further committed to developing strategies for implementing sustainable practices that address purchasing of products and services, maintenance, facility design, and municipal operations.

3. *The quality of the environment and the health of the economy are interdependent.* A healthy environment is integral to the long-term economic interests of the City. The City is committed to protecting and restoring the natural environment as growth management and economic development decisions are made. The City is also committed to ecological decision-making where-in environmental criteria are integrated into municipal decision-making processes. As we protect the health of the environment and provide for expansion of the economy, we must also ensure that inequitable burdens are not placed on any one geographic or socioeconomic sector of the population.

4. *Community awareness and education are fundamentally important to successful implementation of sustainability policies and programs.* Every member of the community has some impact on the environment. Individuals, businesses, governments, and community-based groups must be encouraged to take responsibility for actions that harm the environment. The City will assume a leadership role in creating, sponsoring, and promoting sustainability awareness and education within the community. The City will focus on solutions and will facilitate citizen participation in developing those solutions.

5. *Local actions have regional, national and global implications.* Eugene does not exist in isolation; it is part of a larger community of interests. Similarly, local issues cannot be separated from their broader context. The City will recognize the relationship between local, regional, national and global issues in its policy and program development. The City will also assume a leadership role in developing model environmental programs and innovative approaches to economic development that reflect this linkage to the regional, national and global communities.

The foregoing Resolution adopted the 28th day of February 2000.

/s/ Warren G. Wong

City Recorder